AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1170 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1933 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 23, NO. 28

Controversy never convinced any man; men must be influenced by making them think.—Voltaire.

Editorials

Railroad Rebates

The widespread practice of railroad executives giving secret rebates to shippers in the latter part of the last century and the partnership of shippers in the scheme were among the major causes for the enactment by Congress of the law establishing the Interstate Commerce Commission with power to stop the rebate evil.

People have generally believed that this nefarious practice was absolutely and completely a matter of history. But the action of a Federal grand jury in Chicago in indicting the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company and six Chicago commission merchants on charges of unlawfully giving, soliciting, and receiving rebates indicates that railroad and business executives still require copious legal compulsion to keep their affairs straightforward and in the public interest.

The indictments followed a long investigation by the U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission, according to Benjamin F. Landis, Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago. What is of equally serious import is the statement made by Landis that he expected shortly to present to the grand jury additional evidence regarding the practice of certain shippers "of filing false claims with railroads and receiving rebates in the form of false damage claims."

Evidently Federal codes of fair competition might give a healthier tone to the practices of both railroad managers and shippers and put an end to these especially reprehensible forms of loot, the cost of which is, of course, taken from the public in charges for freight and passenger transportation.

Bankers Oppose Insurance of Deposits

The American Bankers Association at their annual meeting lined up against the insurance of bank deposits which was provided for by the recent session of the Congress of the United States in the establishment of an insurance fund financed jointly by the bankers and the Government.

Bankers borrow money from depositors and use it in banking operations for their own private profit. Hitherto, with the approval of both State and Federal governments, the bankers have assured the depositors of the repayment of the loans they have made from depositors. As a result of this morally criminal practice thousands of depositors during the last three years in particular have lost hundreds of millions of dollars. By absolute robbery which has landed many bankers in jail, by financial juggliery which should have sent many others to the penitentiary, and by inefficient banking practices which should have caused government inspectors to insist on their removal, the banking fraternity, with no insurance of deposits, has simply robbed hundreds of thousands of depositors of their lifelong savings.

To meet this manifest defect in our banking system and in face of the opposition of most bankers, Congress enacted the deposit insurance law, effective within a few months. It is this plan to require the cooperation of the bankers with the Government in making deposits in private banks safe which the organized bankers oppose.

Bankers who insist on borrowing money from depositors without giving adequate security for the safety and repayment of the deposits are not a credit to the United States and come very close to being public enemies.

The American Federation of Labor favors insurance of bank deposits. It believes that the machinations of the organized bankers against the present deposit insurance law and the social principle underlying it will be of no avail.

FEDERAL WORKERS SEE VICTORY ON PAY SLASH

Roosevelt Tells President Green, Heading Labor Group, That Survey of Living Costs Will Be Basis of Government Wage Scale.

Washington.—President Roosevelt ordered a survey of the cost of living as the basis for bringing the Federal Government within the provisions of the NRA program by restoring at least a part of the 15 per cent salary reduction imposed upon Government employes by the last session of Congress.

The position of the President was made known to William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who headed a delegation to the White House consisting of the Executive Council of the Federation and a group representing the American Federation of Government Employes, whose convention was in session here.

Following the White House conference, Mr. Green said:

"The President expressed the hope that he could restore at least part of the salary cut soon.

"He said he had ordered a new survey of the cost of living and indicated a belief that it would show such an increase as to justify him in authorizing a partial slash than 15 per cent in salaries and wages of Government workers at an early date.

Outlook Is Promising

"The President said he did not consider the cost of living estimate given in July as complete because it did not take into account a number of items which enter into the every day household expenditures. He indicated he had given instructions that these important but omitted, items be included in the new survey.

"I believe the outlook is promising for a restoration of at least part of the 15 per cent slash before long. Probably within two or three weeks the new survey will be in the President's hands and he will act shortly thereafter.

Workers Would Aid NRA

"I pointed out to the President that restoration of these cuts would simply be in line with the whole National Industrial Recovery Act. I also pointed out that it is absolutely necessary to restore the thousands of Government workers to the ranks of beneficial consumers under the NRA.

"They not only need more money to meet the rapidly rising cost of living, but increasing their buying power will aid materially in the recovery program."

CONSUMERS NOT PROTECTED IN COTTON PRICE BOOST

Washington.—The announcement of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace that the A. A. A. had determined to limit cotton planting next year to 25,000 acres, in an effort to raise the price of the staple to the farmers, was not accompanied by mention of any program for the benefit of consumers so that they may be able to pay the necessarily increased prices of sacks, shirts, overalls and other textile goods with which they must attempt to clothe themselves.

Secretary Wallace said that only "the fundamentals of the law had been worked out," but that the principle had been approved by President Roosevelt. It is expected that the normal crop will be cut nearly one-third, he said. If textile prices advance only in the same ratio it is clear that any income increases made or prospective under the various recovery codes will fall far short of caring for the difference.

Consumers will have to organize thoroughly and effectively to "work out their own fundamentals," it would appear, if they are not to be left "holding the bag."

4,000 ATTEND LETTER CARRIERS' CONVENTION

Delegates Endorse 5-Day Week Without Pay Loss, 30 Days' Sick and Annual Leave, and Urge Repeal of 15 Per Cent Wage Slash and Payless Furloughs.

Washington.—The twenty-ninth convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers, held in Atlantic City, N. J., September 4-9, is the largest attendance in its history, approximately 4,000 delegates being present, according to a statement issued by the officials of the association at its headquarters here.

A parade was held on Labor Day, and in the line of march were 12 bands composed of letter carriers. The parade was reviewed by Postmaster General Farley, Congressmen James Mead of Buffalo, N. Y., and Clyde Kelly of Pittsburgh, Pa., and other dignitaries.

Platform Adopted

Postmaster General Farley announced at the convention on Labor Day that the payless furlough now in existence would be suspended during the months of October, November and December. The convention advocated Government ownership of all post office quarters; a five-day week without loss of pay; heartily endorsed the American Federation of Labor and the association's membership therein; 30 days' sick and annual leave; advocated a restoration of the wage standard; declared the 15 per cent cut and payless furloughs; advocated relief for the substitutes; urged the membership when purchasing articles to look for the union label, and directed a militant fight to secure a restoration of the privileges taken away under the guise of economy.

Officers Elected

Edward J. Gainor of Muncie, Ind., was elected president, and M. T. Finnan of Bloomington, Ill., was reelected secretary. President Gainor was first elected as national officer in 1901. Secretary Finnan was first elected as a national officer in 1898. Both of these officers have been frequently elected without opposition.

The convention elected as delegates to the convention of the American Federation of Labor: Edward J. Gainor, Muncie, Ind.; M. T. Finnan, Bloomington, Ill.; William J. Gorman, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Charles D. Duffy and Luther E. Swarts of Chicago, Ill.

SEVEN MINERS KILLED IN DOUBLE EXPLOSION

New Kensington, Pa.—Laboring 80 feet underground, seven miners were killed and one was injured by explosions in the Barking Mine of the Hillman Coal and Coke Company here.

Warned by the blasts, which occurred three miles from the mouth of the mine, 300 other miners rushed to the surface, where many were greeted by anxious wives and children.

The company owns 27,000 acres of bituminous coal lands in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. J. H. Hillman and A. B. Sheets, both of Pittsburgh, Pa., are chairman and president, respectively, of the company.

United States Senator Hoar of Massachusetts announced in the United States Senate the best way to prevent railroad accidents would be to place a railroad director on the cow catcher of every locomotive.

It is believed that the application of this accident prevention policy to the coal companies would drastically reduce the number of dead and injured miners resulting from explosions. An examination of the latest edition of Moody's Manual of Industrials reveals that none of the officials of the Hillman Coal and Coke Company were caught in the explosion.

Green Invites Organized Labor To Gompers Memorial Unveiling

$100,000 Monument to Labor's Great Chief Will Be Dedicated in Washington on October 7 in the Presence of President Roosevelt and a Large Number of Notables in Civic Life.

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, invited the officers and members of the Federation, the executive council of the United States and Canada to attend the unveiling of the Gompers Memorial, which will take place in Washington on October 7, during the Federation's annual convention. The invitation was sent to the officials of the national and international unions affiliated with the A. F. of L., city central bodies, and State federations of labor. President Roosevelt has been invited to participate in the unveiling ceremonies.

"On October 7, while the convention of the American Federation of Labor is in session," Mr. Green's invitation to the hosts of organized labor said, "the Gompers Memorial will be unveiled and dedicated. Memorial dedicatory ceremonies will take place beginning at 10:30 in the morning. The construction of this monument was authorized by a convention of the American Federation of Labor held in Boston in 1925 and the money required for its construction was contributed by the membership of the American Federation of Labor.

"The officers and members of the State federations of labor, central labor unions, and members of the American Federation of Labor everywhere are cordially invited to come to Washington to attend the dedication of the Gompers Memorial on October 7.

"It is planned that the dedication ceremonies will be most fitting and appropriate. The monument is most beautiful and artistic. The cost for construction and completion of the monument will be approximately $100,000. It is a monument erected to our great, cherished and leader, the late Samuel Gompers, and because of this fact as well as its artistic beauty and impressiveness, it will be a monument of which labor will be exceedingly proud.

"On behalf of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor I extend to the membership of organized labor and its friends a most sincere and cordial invitation to come to Washington to attend the dedication of the Gompers Memorial on October 7."

National Labor Board Upholds Workers' Right to Select Their Representatives

Berkeley Woolen Mills Violated Recovery Act in Refusing to Deal With Worker Agents Who Were Not Mill Employes

Washington.—A unanimous decision of the National Labor Board in the case against the Berkeley Woolen Mills at Martinsburg, W. Va., set a positive standard for labors right to organize and choose its own representatives and declared that employers must recognize and abide by that right.

The board's ruling was that the Berkeley Woolen Mills had violated the recovery law by refusing to deal with worker representatives who were not employes of the mill. Involved was the basic issue of whether an employer is compelled to recognize a national union.

After citing the collective bargaining provision of section 7 (a) of the act and antedoing to labor the right of collective bargaining "through representatives of their own choosing, the board said:

"* * * we rule, therefore, that employees have the right to choose anyone they may wish for collective representation and are not limited in their choice to fellow employes. * * * To give the code the interpretation sought by the respondent * * * would prevent the employes of a plant from choosing any organization already in existence."

First Ruling of Kind

Employes of the mill went out on strike August 1, when the company refused the United Textile Workers was refused.

The ruling was the first attempt to apply the Recovery Act to settle an employer accused of violating the collective bargaining provision.

In announcing the decision of the Arbitration Board, Senator Warner of New York, the chairman, said:

"The importance of this unanimous decision of the board will be widely recognized. It should help clear the atmosphere. It embodies the letter of the Recovery Act and, if freely accepted by both sides in the spirit of the act, should point the way out of numerous actual and threatened disputes."

The dispute hinged squarely upon the key issue between organized labor and employers of whether the mill officials were compelled to recognize a national union or could take a position of dealing only with their own workers, through a company union.

Recognition Refused

Early in August employes of the Berkeley mills complained that seven of their number had been discharged for attempting union organization. Conciliation efforts failed and the strike was called August 15, closing the mill. Thereupon the United Textile Workers' Union was demanded by the employes and refused.

Referring to one attempt at mediation, the board said in its statement that "once again the question of recognition of representatives arose and the employes insisted that they had the right to choose any one they might desire to act as their representative."

"The president of respondent company refused to admit this," the board said, "and stated that respondent company would recognize no representative who was not an employe of the mill."

Wisconsin Labor Files Suit to Test Right to Organize Under Recovery Act

Milwaukee, Wis. — The Wisconsin State Federation of Labor filed a request in the circuit court here for an injunction to compel the Simplex Shoe Company to cease its efforts to prevent labor from organizing and thus obtain the benefits accorded the workers under the National Industrial Recovery Act and the NRA codes.

This is said to be the first court action taken by organized labor in the United States in its battle to enforce the rights to organize contained in Section 7 (a) of the Recovery Law.

Writ and Intimidation Stopped

The injunction seeks to enjoin the Simplex Shoe Company from:

1—Using any coercive intimidating by language or suggestion of loss of employment to those of its workers who may want to help organize.

2—Threatening, compelling or endeavoring to compel any of its employes as a condition of employment to join a "company union" by threats of discharge or loss of employment.

The petition also seeks to have the injunction heard before Circuit Judge Otto H. Breidenbach.

Three Labor Bodies Complain

It was presented by Joseph A. Padway, counsel for the Federation of Labor, and has as complainants the following: Wisconsin State Federation of Labor; John J. Handley, secretary of that organization; International Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, Local 170, and Charles J. Baumann, secretary of this local.

GOVERNMENT WORKERS ADOPT FINE PLATFORM

Convention Demands 30-Hour Week, Automatic Pay Increases, Overtime Pay, Optional Retirement After 30 Years, and 30 Days' Annual Leave.

Washington.—The second annual convention of the American Federation of Government Employes, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, took an advanced position in upholding the rights of labor in its platform.

The convention adopted resolutions covering the following principles which the organization will endeavor to have incorporated into the Government's policy for the hundreds of thousands of faithful workers:

Restoration of pay, 30-hour week, automatic pay increases, overtime pay, equal pay for the same character of work.

Extension of classifications of the field service, classification according to duties performed and automatic promotion for promotion.

Optional retirement after 30 years' service, the right to increase payments to the retirement fund in order to get greater annuity and 30 days' leave for those employes not entitled to retirement.

A centralized personnel administration which would include transfer of the financial machinery of the retirement law from the Veterans' Administration to the civil service commission, organized employe representation on all personnel bodies.

Extension of the merit system and improvements in the efficiency rating system.

Thirty days' annual leave, cumulative.

The federation voted against a proposal for the hospitalization for Government employes.

Another resolution adopted called for transfer of the staff of Congressional Library to the competitive civil service.

Officers Elected

E. Claude Babcock, former secretary of the Civil Service Commission, was elected president and New York City selected as the next meeting place.

Miss Esther Penn, employe of the Veterans' Administration in Seattle, Wash., was elected secretary-treasurer.

After electing these major officers, both of whom will resign from their Federal positions and devote their full time to organization work, the convention delegates elected 15 vice presidents, one for each of the Civil Service Commission districts.

WORKERS ARE EAGER TO JOIN A. F. OF L.

Freed from Employers' Intimidation By Right to Organize Guarantee of Recovery Act, the Toilers Have Established 3,000 Trade Unions, Morrison Says.

Washington. — Working men and women throughout the country are joining the American Federation of Labor by unprecedented numbers to get the benefits of unionization under the NRA program, Frank Morrison, secretary of the organization, declared in the annual banquet of the American Federation of Government Employes at the Hamilton Hotel here.

Mr. Morrison, who was given an ovation by the banqueters, said:

"Since the National Industrial Recovery Act was started operations the American Federation of Labor has issued charters to 3,000 new unions. Men and women are affiliating with the A. F. of L. by the thousands and all Government employes should enroll under the banner of organized labor at this time."

11,000,000 Jobless

Mr. Morrison declared that although 2,600,000 unemployed persons have been given jobs since last March, there are still 11,000,000 idle, and the A. F. of L. executive declared the 30-hour week and the codes indicates a profound lack of the spirit of justice for jobless workers and their families and an incomprehensible failure to vision the menace to American institutions contained in another Winter chilling to the bone the unemployed army, hopeless and resentful, with its misery cropping out in every community.

Mr. Green declared that the wage standards set up in the codes and those applied by private employers to workers not coming under codes are far below the requirements of decent living standards and of comparatively small importance is the increase in purchasing power which is basic in the Recovery Act and which must be restored if recovery is to come.

Mr. Green also insisted that the employers' policy of attempting to scuttle the labor section of the Recovery Act by eliminating Section 7 (a) from the codes must come to an end. Continued tampering with the workers' unqualified right under the Recovery Act to organize without interference from employers, he said, will undoubtedly promote strikes and general discord.

The text of Mr. Green's statement follows:

"Beyond all question, the National Recovery Administration has reached a point where there must be a reviving of purpose and in the two main objectives, the creation of employment and the raising of purchasing power.

"The American Federation of Labor Executive Council is formulating its report to the convention of the Federation, which opens here October 2.

Shorter Week to Provide Jobs

"We have been making a very careful study of NRA results, and we have been considering the future from every angle and point of view.

"Three things stand out as absolutely essential unless the Recovery program is to drag along at a speed so slow as to leave us facing another winter of severe unemployment.

"First, there must be a real shortening of the work-week established. Under the President's Re-employment Agreement through modifications and substitutions.

Higher Wages Essential

"Second, there must be new high wage levels established at the end of the differentials between North and South. This can be done through determination as the board of labor administration not to compromise further with employers who have not yet come to see America's tremendous need through glasses unclouded by their own greed.

Protect NRA Labor Section

"Third, there must be no deviation from General Johnson's pledge that there will be no further codes permitted containing qualifications of Section 7 (a), the labor section of the Recovery Act.

Automobile Code Chiselers Get Busy

"While we contend that the language of the present labor section is sufficient that employment, discharge and promotion is to be on the basis of merit and any needed change in the law we know that in practice that extenuating language is being used by employers in such a manner as to constitute a modification of the law.

"They are extracting portions of the language for use on bulletin boards and in house organs in such a manner as to indicate to workers that the language inserted in the codes is not the law, omitting entirely the concluding words which assert that the clause does not help or modify the law.

"General Johnson has stated clearly that the labor section will not be permitted in any future codes and we expect he will adhere to his decision. He has said and reasserted that it must be enforced as it was written by Congress and that no deviation or certain approval like to have it rewritten.

Kniling Recovery Law Promotes Strikes

"One of the best ways to promote strikes and general discord will be to tamper with the law, either as to its interpretation or its enforcement. We will not be for the best interests of America if we are disappointed through quibbling and twisting and evading.

Long Work Week Condemned

"Our Executive Council has been studying reports on re-employment and commodity production through the past week and it will continue these studies through the remainder of its sessions. The conclusion has not been reached. It should have been. Labor stated in the beginning and even long before the Recovery Act became law that American industry required a 30-hour week if we were to recover from depression. But literally scores of modified re-employment agreements have established work weeks of 40 hours and more. Some have been as long as 56 hours.

"Let us ask industry, as it seeks these astoundingly long work weeks, how long we are to continue to ask men from going to the country on the issue this laid down? Not long, let me assure you.

Recovery Program Jeopardized By Long Work-Week and Low Wages In NRA Codes, President Green Says

Forty and Fifty-Hour Week, with Millions Jobless, Proves that Industrial Leaders Are Still Dominated by Greed Instead of the Public Interest—Hours Must be Reduced to Make Jobs for Idle and Wages Raised to Lift Living Standards and Promote Prosperity by Larger Buying Power—Employers Warned Against Scuttling Labor's Rights to Organize Guaranteed in Recovery Law.

Washington.—The urgent necessity of reviving the purpose of the National Recovery program to provide work for millions of jobless and higher wages to raise the living standards of the workers and increase mass purchasing power was emphasized by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement following a session of the A. F. of L. Executive Council, which has been formulating its report to the Federation convention opening here on October 2.

Mr. Green trenchantly criticized the long work-weeks and low wage rates which characterize both the temporary agreements which employers have made with President Roosevelt and the fair practice codes promulgated under the Recovery Act.

With millions of unemployed men and women living in semi-destitution on low-standard doles meted out by public and private charity, the A. F. of L. executive declared the 40-hour week and 35-hour week established in some of the codes indicates a profound lack of the spirit of justice for jobless workers and their families and an incomprehensible failure to vision the menace to American institutions contained in another Winter chilling to the bone the unemployed army, hopeless and resentful, with its misery cropping out in every community.

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"Let us ask industry, as it seeks these astoundingly long work weeks, how long we are to continue to refrain from going to the country on the issue this laid down? Not long, let me assure you.

"Our convention will be a platform from which we shall tell the American people the exact situation and there will be no room left in favor in our utterances.

"From the million new members of our Federation there will come, to be expressed through our delegates who will assemble in all the wage earners, a vast first-hand experience with the re-employment agencies and from the programs of organized labor who have gone through repeated experiences with unemployment and relief, and there will come a calm and cold judgment on the present program of recovery.

Labor's Faith in Roosevelt

"American labor has a faith in the National Industrial Recovery Act unexcelled in its keenness. We have a faith in our President such as a President seldom has had in our nation. And we have a faith in General Johnson as a man of high courage and unselfish zeal.

"But we see this new law not only as an instrument of today. We see in it a vast program of industrial reconstruction, out of which there must come a permanent new deal for workers, a permanent stoppage of that brutal exploitation which gave us the great depression and its thirteen millions of unemployed. A new control, representing the public interest, must come into being.

"Our report will discuss this long-range outlook on labor's part and I hope we shall impress and encourage the millions of our people who have been so sorely tried.

Corporations Want Old System Back

"Today Washington is filled with the agents and lobbyists of great manufacturing enterprises and their Wall Street financiers. Many of them have no conception, no idea, of the meaning of a New Deal. They are trying again to restore the old deal. They are trying all of the old back doors and some new ones to get in and they find much help in these places. They have got too much there already.

Change Codes to Benefit Masses

"I shall not try to tell the conferences of our Labor Advisory Committee, but I shall say that we have been compelled to fight the same battle another in behalf of the integrity of the law and the integrity of the behalf of the masses in that law by the President and his Administration.

"I find all too little to say for the conduct of such enormous industries as steel, rubber, autos and the like, and may yet have to press with vigor for a revision not merely for those who went broke in Wall Street.

"Before this winter is over we shall have, both in our ranks and outside, our present strength. That will be a steadying influence in the progressive movement, if Recovery gives us half a chance. That is our goal as we shall place it before our convention."

Jobless Army Menaces Social Stability

"Our Council's report will emphasize this position and will demand, through the voices of millions of unemployed workers and through the voices of other millions who hope to become organized, that we have done with compromises with privilege and that we hew to the line laid down in the law and the line dictated by the tremendous necessities of our people.

"If we enter the coming winter with the seven or eight millions of unemployed now indicated, the labor movement cannot guarantee that stability of society will be preserved in democracy. There must be recovery for the workers, not merely for those who 'went broke in Wall Street.'

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JUDGE FINDS PICKETS GUILTY OF CONTEMPT

Long Branch, N. J.—Vice Chancellor Mark Leon Berry adjudged five workers guilty of contempt of court. The Vice Chancellor claimed the men had picketed the Ideal Laundry and Dry Cleaning Plant at Red Bank in violation of an injunction issued August 12. Ninety-two other men charged with violating the court injunction were ordered to appear before the Vice Chancellor on September 21.

If the Vice Chancellor were a federal judge he would be subject to impeachment proceedings under the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law which forbids federal courts to issue writs of injunctions in labor disputes as against the public policy of the United States.

The fact that State Judge Mark Berry type persist in issuing these injunctions in violation of the pronounced policy of the Federal Government makes it all the more important for the organized labor movement to see to it that State laws are enacted in conformity with the spirit of the federal statute.

UNION GROWTH WORRIES RAYON MANUFACTURERS

New York.—Rayon weavers and converters are worried for fear the strikes now existing in workers in Paterson and Pennsylvania to enforce the National Recovery Administration of the injunctions of the workers provisions in the code submitted by the Silk Association of America may spread to the rayon industry.

The conditions in the rayon industry where some of the locals already have petitioned the executive board of the United Textile Workers for permission to strike, is especially disturbing to the manufacturers in view of the fact that rapidly lining up workers throughout the southern provinces in the rayon mills organizers were given short shrift in the company-controlled mill villages.

The big fellows are particularly concerned over what they term the disloyalty of some of the smaller manufacturers in allying themselves with the unions by supporting that silk and rayon mill wages be set higher than in the cotton mills under the textile code.

UNION LABEL BEST WEAPON TO SMITE NRA CHISELERS

Atlantic City, N. J.—The union label is "one of the best means of enforcing the National Recovery Act and protecting the high standards established under it," declared Arthur A. Quinn, president of the Label Trades State Federation of Labor, in an address here before the Federation's annual convention, which is in session here.

Mr. Quinn asserted that the success of the NRA program depends upon the workers' units.

"There is no doubt," he said, "that many an agreed code has not been lived up to as they intend to obey them. It will be organized labor's duty to see that they are enforced not only by closed-shop employers but by the far more numerous open-shop employers.

"Our form of government depends upon the success or failure of enforcement of the Recovery Act. That, in turn, depends in large measure on labor's organized activities, and not on the honesty, intelligence and unselfishness of labor's leadership. Labor must have a greater sense of responsibility. We must be our brother's keeper, even though that brother is not counted in the union ranks."

Fur Bosses Violate Code Labor Section, Is Charge

New York.—Peter Lucchi, president of the International Fur Workers' Union, charged that the labor provisions of President Roosevelt's blanket code are being violated by many rabbit fur manufacturers.

He declared that strikes would be called in Brooklyn, Newark, Jersey City and Paterson if necessary to enforce the collective bargaining provisions of the code and wipe out sweatshop conditions.

Textile Workers' Union Gains in South Carolina

Greenville, S. C.—More than 6,000 South Carolina mill workers have already been enrolled in the United Textile Workers of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, with membership rolling up by the additional snowball, according to John Peel, general representative of the United Textile Workers.

Locals already have been organized in and at Spartanburg, Gaffney, Anderson, Columbia, Abbeville, Pelzer, Easley, Seneca, with Rock Hill and Greenwood next in line. Some 3,000 new members have been enrolled in the Greater Greenville area alone.

Textile Workers Union Declares Dispute Board Completed

Greenville, S. C.—H. H. Willis, dean of the textile industry school of Clemson College has been named by E. J. Geer, of the Cotton Textile National Industrial Relations Board, to represent the public on the South Carolina Industrial Relations Board to which all wage and hour disputes within the State under the cotton textile industry code will be first referred.

Earl R. Britton, of Columbia, is labor's representative, and J. E. Sirrine, head of a local engineering firm, represents the employers on the State board. Disputes this group may be unable to settle will be carried to the national board.

39,765 Jobs Made by NRA In 57 New York Counties

New York, N. Y.—Payroll increases under the NRA in up-State New York reached a total recently of $498,178 weekly, or $86,756,216 annually, on the basis of reports made to W. Averell Harriman, chairman of the Temporary Emergency Re-employment Committee for the State of New York, at NRA headquarters in the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Up-State employers were 97 per cent enrolled when an additional 1,031 signed agreements, bringing the total to 168,642 out of the estimated 112,000 for the 57 up-State counties.

Wisconsin Labor Federation Opposes Company Unions

Milwaukee, Wis. — The Wisconsin State Federation of Labor filed a request in the circuit court here for an injunction to compel the Simplex Shoe Company to cease its efforts to prevent labor from organizing and thus obtain the benefits accorded the workers under the National Industrial Recovery Act and the NRA codes.

This is said to be the first court action taken by organized labor in the United States in its battle to enforce the rights to organize contained in Section 7 (a) of the Recovery Law.

Writ and Intimidation Stopped

The injunction seeks to enjoin the Simplex Shoe Company from:

1—Using any coercive intimidating by language or suggestion of loss of employment to those of its workers who may want to help organize.

2—Threatening, compelling or endeavoring to compel any of its employes as a condition of employment to join a "company union" by threats of discharge or loss of employment.

The petition also seeks to have the injunction heard before Circuit Judge Otto H. Breidenbach.

Three Labor Bodies Complain

It was presented by Joseph A. Padway, counsel for the Federation of Labor, and has as complainants the following: Wisconsin State Federation of Labor; John J. Handley, secretary of that organization; International Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, Local 170, and Charles J. Baumann, secretary of this local.